GALLANT PHIL KEARNY'S BONES TO BE REMOVED

LAST LETTER WRITTEN BY GENERAL KEARNY, THE DAY BEFORE HE WAS KILLED. LIEUT. FLEMING WAS THE EFFICIENT OFFICER

MAJOR GENERAL PHIL KEARNY.

GEN KEARNY AS HE WAS SHOT FROM HIS HORSE

After Reposing Half a Century in Trinity Churchyard Body of Civil War Hero Will Be Taken to Arlington—New Jersey, His Adopted State, Appropriates Funds to Disinter the Dashing Soldier and Erect Handsome Monument

Within a couple of stone throws of the spot where he was born ninety-six or ninety-seven years ago—the date of his birth is uncertain—the body of one of the greatest and most gallant soldiers who ever wore the uniform of the United States will one week from next Thursday be taken from the place where it has rested in Trinity churchyard for fifty years, and with the reverence and honor justly due be laid in state in New York's City Hall until the following day. Then it will be taken to Arlington National Cemetery, near Washington, D. C., and there finally buried, where hundreds of others of his distinguished comrades in arms are resting.

When Major-Gen. Philip Kearny met a sudden and unexpected death on the battlefield at Chantilly, Va., New York and the rest of the loyal nation mourned the loss of one of its bravest and most important soldiers. Born at 3 Broadway, New York, and living as he did in this city for many years, yet the State of New Jersey also claimed him by reason of his long residence there, his home having been at the town which bears his name.

The question has often been asked why Gen. Kearny was not buried in New Jersey, but apart from the fact that he was born a New Yorker it was regarded as wise to hold such an important function as the funeral of a Major-General of the United States army in this city with the object of influencing public opinion in certain quarters which was actively opposed to enlistment in the army, for in those days all the enemies of the Union were by no means in the South. As a well known public man expressed it at the time: "President Lincoln and the Union have as many enemies in the rear as at the front." Because of his having married into the well known and prominent Watts family of New York and the great admiration which the family held for Gen. Kearny it was decided to place his body in the family vault in Trinity churchyard. Now after half a century it is to be taken from that spot and laid at rest near the Capitol.

It is entirely due to the efforts of Gen. Kearny's old comrades in arms, officers and men, who were members of what were known as Kearny's New Jersey Brigade, that the reinterment has been made posible. Members of the Grand Army of the Republic, notably those of Phil Kearny Post, No. 8, of this city, have also aided materially in the undertaking. Some time since Gov. Wilson of New Jersey appointed a commission for the purpose of arranging for the interment. This consisted of C. F. Hopkins, chairman, of Boonton, N. J., who is the postmaster at that place and who was a member of the First New Jersey Volunteers, Kearny's Brigade; John Lawrence of New Brunswick, N. J., who was a member of the Second New Jersey; E. L. Van Alston of Newark, N. J., of the Third New Jersey; John Bodine of Camden, N. J., who belonged to the Fourth New Jersey; Frank O. Cole of Jersey City, who was a gallant member of a Massachusetts regiment during the civil war and who has since been honored with some of the highest offices in the Grand Army of the Republic; J. J. Inglis, Jr., of Paterson, N. J.; and Eugene Burke of Morristown, N. J., a former member of the Legislature of that State.

Because of certain divergent views held by present relatives of Gen. Kearny it was not until last year that the consent of all of them could be obtained to the removal of the body. Some of these reside in New York, others in Washington, Richmond, France and elsewhere. Once this consent was gained, however, it was necessary to obtain permission from the vestrymen of Trinity Church as well as of members of the Watts family to remove the General's body from the vault. This was accomplished, with the result that on April 11 the ceremonies, of which the United States Government has taken official notice, will be held.

At 7 o'clock on that morning the vault will be opened and the casket in which the remains were originally placed, enclosed in another and handsomer coffin and removed to the chancel of Trinity Church. The body will at no time be exposed.

At 10:30 o'clock brief services will begin, consisting of a dirge by the regular army band from Governors Island and prayer by the Rev. Dr. Manning of Trinity Church.

The body, placed on an army caisson, drawn by four horses, and escorted by Phil Kearny Post, No. 8, and other bodies of the Grand Army of the Republic, four companies of troops from Governors Island, the Seventh Regiment and Troop A, will be taken down Broadway, past the Custom House—incidentally passing the site of his birthplace—through Beaver street to Broad, to Wall, to Broadway and to the City Hall, which is to be draped in black, where the body will be placed in the rotunda and further exercises held, consisting of sacred music by the band, an address by C. F. Hopkins, chairman of the commission; address by Major-Gen. Daniel E. Sickles, who was a friend of Major-Gen. Kearny; an address by Gov. Dix and an address by Gov. Wilson of New Jersey. Mayor Gaynor, General Fred D. Grant, U. S. A., and other distinguished persons are to be present.

Eight men and an officer of Phil Kearny Post will act as guard of honor until seven o'clock on the morning of April 12, when the casket, again escorted by troops from Governors Island, headed by a band, and by members of Phil Kearny Post and others, will be taken down Broadway to Cortlandt street and thence to the Pennsylvania ferry, where it will be transported to the Pennsylvania station in Jersey City, and placed on the funeral car, which is to leave at half past 8 o'clock.

The car containing the remains will be locked and no person admitted except the guard of honor from Phil Kearny Post. Particular care will be taken by those having the arrangements in charge that no curiosity seekers or others shall be allowed to detract in any way from the solemnity of the occasion. The train, which is to be a special one, is due to reach Washington at 1 o'clock. There a detachment of regular cavalry from Fort Myer will act as an escort to Arlington Cemetery, the remains being transported in a funeral trolley car especially prepared for the occasion.

At the grave, which is located near that of Gen. George A. Crook, U. S. A., the noted Indian fighter, the ceremonies will include a dirge by the army band from Fort Myer, prayer by the chaplain of the Grand Army of the Republic, address by Chairman Hopkins of the commission, and an oration by "Corporal" James Tanner, who is Register of Wills of the District of Columbia, and who lost both feet in one of the series of engagements with the Confederates, which ended in the battle of Chantilly.

Later a magnificent monument is to mark the site of Gen. Kearny's grave. The present Legislature of New Jersey has appropriated $10,000 for this purpose, having at the same time appropriated $5,000 for the expenses attending the removal of the remains from Trinity churchyard to Arlington Cemetery. By judicious management only one-half of the latter sum has been found necessary for the purpose required.

Gen. Kearny's ancestors were Irish and of this he was always proud. As early as 1716 a Kearny settled in Monmouth county, New Jersey. His son, Philip Kearny, who was an eminent lawyer, died less than a year before the Declaration of Independence. John Watts, one of the best known residents of New York, was the paternal grandfather of Gen. Kearny. He it was who founded and endowed the Leake and Watts Orphan House in New York. He was the last Royal Recorder of New York city; a member of the Legislature from 1793 until 1795, and was three times Speaker of the New York Legislature, in 1791 and 1792. From 1802 until 1808 he was a Judge of Westchester county.

Gen. Phil Kearny was born at what was then 3 Broadway. Some accounts give the date of birth as June 2, 1815, although his brother-in-law, whose wife, Susan Kearny, held the family Bible, declared that the record in that book showed the date to have been June 1, 1814. It is believed the latter date is correct.

Gen. Kearny's mother died while he was young. He attended school, passed through Columbia College and studied law, but his hopes and ambition always led toward the army.

On the death of his gradfather in 1836 he exerted influence and succeeded in obtaining an appointment March 4, 1837, as Third Lieutenant in the First United States Dragoons. He was appointed an aide-de-camp to Gen. Winfield Scott and fought with him against the Indians, but when the cavalry branch of the army was reduced Kearny resigned rather than enter a foot regiment, for he was essentially a cavalryman.

The following year he reentered the First Dragoons as Second Lieutenant, that regiment being then commanded by his uncle, Stephen Watts Kearny.

Soon after this the Government sent young Kearny to Europe for the purpose of studying and reporting on French cavalry tactics, but he was so anxious for active service that he fought with the French army as a volunteer, winning the cross of the Legion of Honor for bravery in action.

He returned to the United States in 1840, and again became aid to Gen. Scott. In 1841 he was promoted to a captaincy and again served on Scott's staff, this time in Mexico.

It was at the battle of Cherubusco that Kearny lost his left arm. He charged over the ramparts of a fortification behind which Mexicans were massed and shot and sabred a number of them, but to his surprise he found that his troops had not followed him and he thereupon retreated. While doing so the enemy fired at him with grape shot, which carried away his left arm.

At the close of the Mexican War Capt. Kearny served on the Pacific coast in operations against the Indians, but he was restless for active service and, obtaining leave of absence, went to Europe and fought under the French General Maurier in the war with Italy in 1859.

When he heard that war between the North and the South was imminent he hastened home and was quickly made Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

After the first battle of Bull Run he was placed in command of his New Jersey troops, which were always afterward known as Kearny's Brigade, Franklin's Division, Army of the Potomac. His military ability was so marked that he was given command of a division in Gen. Heintzelman's corps.

He behaved so gallantly in the Peninsular campaign that he was promoted to the rank of Major-General in July, 1862. His rise had been most rapid, but was thoroughly justified. It was Gen Kearny who was the first to reenforce Gen. Pope. He was constantly engaged in battles between the Rappahannock and Washington from August 25 until September 1.

Unlike many commanding officers, Gen. Kearny constantly visited the front or exposed positions before an engagement in order to view battle conditions for himself. The Confederate General Robert E. Lee was at that time engaged in the campaign which included the invasion of Maryland by the Southern army for the first time, and which culminated in the bloody battle of Antietam.

On the night of September 1, it being expected that a battle would be fought the next day, Gen. Kearny during a heavy rainstorm decided to reconnoitre the enemy's position.

Before he knew it he found himself inside the enemy's lines. Realizing his danger, he put spurs to his horse and bending low in the saddle dashed toward his own lines. The Confederates had recognized him, however, and fired upon him. The next moment Gen. Kearny, as Secretary of War Stanton said of the martyred President Lincoln while standing at the bedside as he breathed his last, "Belonged to the ages."

The Confederate gallantly sent the dead hero's body into the Federal lines with a guard of honor and under a flag of truce.

Kearny's career in the Army of the Potomac had been so full of brave and conspicuous deeds that his death was a tremendous blow to the Government. It was believed at the time that had he lived two days longer he would have been appointed commander of two armies.

The removal of his body from the battlefield to Washington and later from the Capitol through New Jersey to New York city was most impressive. Flags were at half mast everywhere, stores were closed and buildings everywhere were draped with mourning, while bells tolled and hundreds of thousands of persons turned out to see the funeral train or to pass before the remains, which lay in state at Newark and then in New York. The body was enclosed in a handsome coffin covered with black silk velvet, lined with satin and ornamented with gold lace and tassels. The coffin nails, handles, &c., were gold plated, as was the plate on the coffin, which bore the following inscription:

"Major-General Philip Kearny. Killed on the field of battle, September 1, 1862, at Chantilly, Va., aged 47 years 2 months and 30 days."

The sword and belt of the dead soldier lay on the coffin, which was covered with an American flag and a quantity of white flowers. The body was dressed in the full uniform of a Major-General.

Probably no commanding officer in the United States army ever presented a handsomer or more soldierly figure on horseback than did Gen. Kearny. He was the very picture of a cavalier. Even after he lost his bridle arm he continued to be the same fearless rider as before. One armed, he would dash through woods or leap walls, ditches or other obstacles in such a manner as to astonish the boldest riders who had the use of both arms, and yet, strange to say, although the loss of his arm did not interfere with his movements while on his feet, he always had to fix a pillow under his left shoulder at night for fear of suffocating if he rolled on his left side, since from shortness or some other difficulty with his stump he could not readily turn over in bed. Notwithstanding all this, he could swim like a fish, and would undress, plunge into the waves, and later dress himself unassisted far more easily than could some men who had the use of both arms.

Gen. Winfield Scott, who knew Kearny well, said of him: "Phil Kearny is the bravest man I ever knew and the most perfect soldier." At the battle of Williamsburg Gen. Kearny dashed alone into the abatis which the Confederates had cut down for their protection and called out to his own skirmishers to "drive the —— enemy out of cover!"

As soon as a few of his men showed themselves a whole regiment of Confederates arose on the other side of the abatis and fired deliberately at Kearny's men, but Kearny was not touched.

An anecdote showing Kearny's spirit is told of him just before the battle of Malvern Hill. An officer rode up and asked to be relieved on account of illness.

"Sir," said Kearny, "this is no time for well men to get sick. These are the times for sick men to get well, sir. Return to your post."

President Lincoln was very fond of Gen. Kearny. At the function given at the White House in the winter of 1861, where Kearny was a guest, President Lincoln drew him aside and asked for his opinion of the movement "on to Richmond."

Gen. Kearny replied: "Mr. President, give me a division of Jerseymen and put a peach orchard or a henroost on the other side of Richmond and I'll take it in spite of hell, sir, in spite of hell!"

Gen. Kearny was only in command of his brigade on one New Year's Day, which was January 1, 1862. On that occasion he issued a general amnesty proclamation releasing every one in his command from arrest who had charges preferred against him, explaining that he desired to "start the New Year right."

During his campaign around Manassas, Bull Run and Fairfax, among the spoils captured were several barrels of whiskey. Some of his soldiers had knocked in the head of one barral, but were hesitating whether to drink any of the contents when the General rode up and asked: "What have you here?"

Some of them replied: "It looks and smells like whiskey, General, but we are afraid it's poisoned."

The General said: "No Southern gentleman would so far forget himself as to spoil good liquor that way," and then in his impetuous way added: "Give me some. I'll try it."

At once several tin cupfuls of the suspected liquor were proffered him. He smelled the contents of one cup, tasted it, took a big drink, and then handed the cup back to the man who gave it to him, saying: "If I'm not dead in fifteen minutes drink all you want."

Passing further along the line he found a man who had polished the front of his shoes, but he had neglected the heels.

The General looked him sharply in the eye for a moment and said, "What do you mean by coming to inspection with the toes of your shoes polished but the heels muddy?"

The soldier answered, "General, you told us a good soldier never looks behind."

Gen. Kearny passed on down the line.

As an instance of his celebrity the following incident has been related. During the campaign and the days of Gen. Pope's defeat at the second battle of Bull Run there was at Hagerstown, Md., a large corral in which were kept a number of horses to supply the Union cavalry. This was in charge of one of the corral masters, a good natured Irishman.

The night on which Gen. Kearny was killed the horses suddenly disappeared from the corral and scattered over the surrounding country.

The next morning the quartermaster called up the corral master and berated him for his carelessness in allowing the animals to get out.

After receiving his lecture the corral master replied, "Sure, sor, they did not get out by carelessness, for when I heard that Gen. Kearny was kilt I thought everything was busted, and the country gone to the divil for sure, and I just opened the gates and let the bastes run away."

Gen. Kearny was twice married. His first wife was a member of the Watts family of New York. They had several children. Later he married again, this time Miss Agnes Maxwell, who survived him, and who is now the wife of Rear Admiral Upshur, U. S. N., retired, and who lives in Washington. There were several children by the second marriage. By a strange coincidence one of Gen. Kearny's granddaughters is married to Julian Hill, a banker of Richmond, Va., and is a grandson of Gen. Randolph Heth Hanson, who was a distinguished officer in the Confederate army. The granddaughter of the famous Northern General now lives under the shadow of the monument erected to the memory of Gen. Robert E. Lee.

When a youth Gen. Kearny often used to say, "When my hour comes, I want to die alone, in the woods."

And so he died.

A CONFEDERATE RALLY JUST BEFORE KEARNY'S DEATH.

FIGHTING NEAR CHANTILLY WITH KEARNY'S COMMAND.

EASTER FLOWER DISPLAY THIS YEAR UNPARALLELED FOR BEAUTY

The Easter display of flowers and plants will be unusually fine this year, florists say. First, there is the old favorite, the white Easter lily. It may be had in the form of either a single plant bearing from three to eight fragrant blooms, or several plants in one receptacle producing from fifteen to twenty-five blooms. Years ago the Candidum lily was the variety chiefly grown, and later the Harrisii. The lilies, a million of which are already in bud in the greenhouses, now grown for Easter are the multiflorum, formosum and giganteum varieties, all bearing white blooms. A plant bearing three or four buds and blooms may be bought at a very reasonable price.

Of deserved popularity is the marguerite, also called the Paris daisy, and also the Queen Alexandra daisy and the new English daisy, Mrs. H. Sander. Well grown plants of these are covered with white blooms, and remain in flower a long time. Even the small plants bloom freely and can be purchased at a moderate price.

The azalea indica is one of the most showy of all plants used at Easter. When in full flower its shining green foliage is nearly concealed by its blooms, which embrace nearly the entire range of color from pure white to deep crimson. This wide range of color and the equally wide scope in size and cost make the azalea always a popular Easter plant. Less seen is the azalea mollis, a half hardy species which has very scanty foliage at its period of bloom; but this paucity of leaves is little noticed, so numerous are its trumpet shaped flowers, showing some shades of color, especially the beautiful yellow tints, not seen in the azalea indica. The azalea mollis, though costing somewhat more than the indica, has this advantage for the suburbanite, that after it has finished blooming, it can be planted outside, and, with little protection during the winter, will continue to grow and flower yearly.

The most magnificent of all the broad leaved blooming evergreens are the rhododendrons with their thick, dark green foliage and profusion of blooms, in general appearance resembling those of the azalea but larger, and showing some different tints. Rhododendrons are grown only in large pots and tubs, and are more expensive usually than azaleas. After blooming they can be planted out of doors, but should be set to the north or west of some building or fence where they are shielded from the winter sun.

Lilacs, with both white and purple, single and double blooms, are now grown in perfection in large pots and tubs. The shape of their blossom clusters and of their individual florets as well as their fragrance makes them a prime favorite. They bear handling well, are good keepers, are growing in popularity and considering the size of the plants are not expensive.

Other blooming shrubs grown as pot plants are the crab apples of the floribundi species, with their beautiful pink and white blooms and Betchel's double flowering crab; the pink and the white amonds, the double flowering plums and Japanese cherries, the laburnums, often called the golden chain tree, with their graceful yellow racemes, the dwarf deutzias having white bell shaped blooms reminding one of the lily of the valley. All of these may be set out in the open ground after blooming and will live and bloom there year after year.

The herbaceous spiræas, both the Gladstone with white blooms and the Queen Alexandra with pink, are much sought by plant buyers and their steeple shaped, soft inflorescence is very pretty. The cost of a well grown plant is not large.

Very different from any of the foregoing plants is the Bougainvillea glabra sanderiana. Only experts who have carefully studied the nature of this plant can grow it successfully. Some remarkably fine plants are offered this season grown in bush, pyramid, fan, basket, umbrella and standard forms. These Bougainvilleas are covered with oddly shaped pink bracts and are very showy and striking plants.

Years ago hydrangeas were mostly grown in wooden tubs or boxes. They were kept over winter in cool cellars and brought out in the spring to grow and bloom in the summer. Now these plants are grown in the greenhouses in pots in very large numbers and are in full bloom at Easter. In addition to the old variety, hydrangea otaksa, there are now grown many new varieties from France. One large plant grower in New Jersey is trying twenty-seven new varieties this spring. Hydrangeas are now grown in standard as well as bush form. The range of color is greater than ever before and includes pure white and many shades of pink and blue. They are becoming more popular every year, both because of their real merits and because the cost of medium sized plants is not large.

Twenty years ago only hybrid perpetual and tea roses were brought into bloom at Easter and not many of these. About fifteen years ago the crimson rambler was introduced and at once it became immensely popular. Soon it was found that it could be grown under glass and brought into bloom at Easter and thousands were grown this way. Then followed Dorothy Perkins, a beautiful double pink rose, and a little later Lady Gay, Tausendschon, Wedding Bells and others in shades of pink. Soon after single crimson roses with a white or yellow eye began to appear, such as Hiawatha, American Pillar, Agnes Steinhoff and Juniata.

Then some one succeeded in producing a dwarf crimson baby rambler, which was scarcely two feet high and could be grown in five inch pots. Baby ramblers in other colors followed, such as Baby Dorothy, Phyllis, Orleans and Mrs. Cutbush. The baby ramblers are grown in bush shape, but besides this shape many of the large ramblers are by bending and twisting their long canes, grown into the shape of umbrellas, fans, balls, pyramids and baskets.

Some hybrid roses are still grown, such as the new white Frau Karl Druschki, the favorite old pink Magna Charta and the red Ulrich Brunner. Many florists have from 3,000 to 5,000 roses growing now in pots and tubs and one grower in New Jersey has 10,000 which will be in bloom for Easter.

The Genesta fragrans has been grown for many years as an Easter plant, and it is now coming back again into popularity. It has an attractive foliage and its numerous, handsome orange yellow blooms make it easily the best plant in that color.

The ericas, commonly called heathers, and the acacias, with their small leaves, the former with bell shaped small blooms of many colors and the latter with soft, round heads of flowers mostly in the yellow shades, are graceful and pretty and fill a place which no other plants can.

Lilies of the valley grown with from twelve to eighteen plants in a five or six inch pot are very pretty and fragrant. Many other bulbous plants besides lilies are grown for Easter. The gayly colored tulips, the yellow daffodils, the handsome and exquisitely fragrant Dutch hyacinths are all grown with either one bulb in a small pot or several bulbs in a shallow clay pan. The price of these is not large and they are good keepers and very desirable for use as table plants.

It has of late years become increasingly a custom among the retail florists to offer baskets in a great variety of pleasing styles, and there are also boxes of terra cotta, tiles or wood lined with tin filled with several kinds of flowering and foliage plants. When this work is done skilfully the effect is pleasing. The cost of these combinations is of necessity higher than that of single plants.

In addition to flowering plants innumerable foliage plants will be offered this Easter—the graceful ferns, the stately Ficus pandurata, the draciænas with yellow, white and pink mingled with the green of their foliage, the tropical palms and the gayest of all bright foliage plants the crotons.